

SENATOR WARNER: If I can.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Senator Warner, last year we had a bill up, it was my first year in the session, for a sunset review and it was the bill for the embalmers and funeral directors as I remember the name of the associations and I fought the good fight, if you will, to try to keep them from having the provision that Board of Examiners, Board of Review for continuing education because they said they needed this continuing education for the embalmers because of the changing state of the art. And I had a hard time accepting that that state of the art of embalming was changing faster than the laws that we have on our books or the practice of medicine, neither of which have anything in their laws that say that they need continuing education. I did not win that fight. I have been told since then that maybe we would have all been better off had I because there are a lot of funeral directors and embalmers that are not happy with that provision. Indeed they have decided that maybe the state of the art hasn't changed quite as fast as they thought and some of them are wondering what the heck they are going to teach each other about embalming. My question to you, Senator Warner, is, does the industry really think that the continuing education is necessary for them to have a renewal certificate or do they want to use this for more political purposes?

SENATOR WARNER: Well, Senator Hannibal, I can go back further. Everyone of the boards that have been scheduled for sunset in the last five years the Performance Review and Audit Committee has recommended that there ought to be continuing education, or now called professional development, as a part of a licensure requirement. And the policy that we would recommend that on was any kind of a license that the state grants. It is in theory and I would hope, in fact, an indication to the citizen who uses that licensee's services that they are indeed qualified and up to date on those practices that they are selling and that licensing should be considered as the state...I don't want to use the word guarantee, but indicating the quality...the qualifications of a person's license so we have always felt that some form of professional development on an annual basis or a renewal date of a license at least ought to be included and not just pass the test the first time you get a